



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

November 4, 2005

S. 572

Homeland Security Food and Agriculture Act of 2005

*As reported by the Senate Committee on Homeland Security
and Governmental Affairs on September 27, 2005*

S. 527 would amend the Homeland Security Act to require the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to establish a program to protect the agriculture industry and the nation's food supply from terrorist acts. In addition, the legislation would authorize the appropriation of \$5 million in fiscal year 2006 for grants to state and local animal health care officials.

CBO estimates that implementing S. 572 would cost \$8 million in 2006 and \$53 million over the 2006-2010 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts. Enacting the legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues.

S. 572 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. Any costs incurred by these governments to participate in the activities authorized by this bill would be incurred voluntarily.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of S. 572 is shown in the following table. The cost of this legislation falls within budget function 800 (general government).

	By Fiscal Year, In Millions of Dollars				
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION					
Establish Food Supply Protection Program					
Estimated Authorization Level	6	9	12	12	12
Estimated Outlays	5	8	11	12	12
Local Community Emergency Planning					
Authorization Level	5	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	3	2	0	0	0
Total Changes					
Estimated Authorization Level	11	9	12	12	12
Estimated Outlays	8	10	11	12	12

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that the bill will be enacted early in fiscal year 2006 and that spending will follow historical patterns for similar programs.

DHS currently has a Directorate for Preparedness that identifies and assesses current and future threats to the United States. According to that office, it is working to coordinate the protection of the agriculture industry and food supply throughout the United States.

S. 572 would codify and expand the current duties of the Directorate for Preparedness. The directorate would be responsible for communicating and coordinating among federal, state, and local emergency response providers regarding threats to the agriculture industry and food supply, for ensuring that state and local officials have access to information on agricultural terrorism, and for planning to prevent and respond to food and agriculture emergencies. Based on information from DHS, CBO estimates that the office would need about \$12 million a year for additional staff to carry out its additional responsibilities under S. 572. CBO expects that the office would steadily expand its budget and staff over the next three years before it reached that level of effort. We estimate that the added duties for the directorate would cost \$48 million over the 2006-2010 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary funds.

The legislation also would authorize the appropriation of \$5 million for grants to state and local animal care officials to participate in community emergency planning efforts. CBO estimates that implementing the grant program would cost \$5 million over the 2006-2007 period.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 572 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. Any costs incurred by these governments to participate in the activities authorized by this bill would be incurred voluntarily.

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